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a network-management server which collects information on configurations of the network elements and the links as well as information on failures, and informs said service-management server of a change in at least one of the configurations and the failures for a purpose of said updating; and

a client which displays both or either one of the physical network configuration and the logical network configuration with respect to said client's own service by selecting one of the service-specific views that corresponds to said client's own service.

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2002, in which the Examiner:

- (a) rejected claims 1-10 as anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,586,254 (Kondo); and
- (b) rejected claims 11-13 as obvious over Kondo in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,308,205 (Carcerano).

Based on the above amendments and following remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Kondo teaches generating and displaying a physical configuration figure and a logical configuration figure which satisfies required conditions to reduce the load and simplify the matters relating to network management. However, Kondo is silent about creating view-configuration information with respect to each of the services, as expressly recited in sole independent claim 1.

The claimed invention creates and display view-configuration information with respect to each of the services as shown, for instance, in Figure 2. With the display function such as this,

the network administrator can easily manage and control the network on a service-specific basis, which has been further stressed in the amendments to independent claims 1 and 11. Kondo clearly fails to disclose, teach or otherwise suggest such features.

In the claims as amended, there are a plurality of service-specific views of the network that correspond to respective services, and a selected one or more of the service-specific views is displayed.

View-configuration information created by Kondo may inherently be directed to a relevant service although Kondo does not state so. However, Kondo neither teaches nor suggests providing a plurality of service-specific views of the network that correspond to respective services as called for by claims as amended. Nor is there any teaching or suggestion regarding the display of a selected one or more of the service-specific views in Kondo or Carcerano.

In view thereof, claim 1 is clearly allowable. Each remaining claim is dependent directly on indirectly on claim 1 and is also allowable for at least the above reasons.

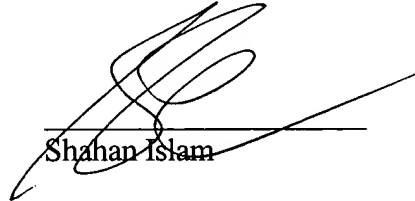
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims an/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects, in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case be passed to issue.

Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX – AMENDED CLAIMS IN “MARKED-UP” FORM

1. (amended) A method of controlling a network which includes network elements connected via links, and provides services, said method comprising the steps of:

creating view-configuration information based on network-configuration information with respect to each of the services such that the view-configuration information is related to the network-configuration information, said view-configuration information providing a basis for a plurality of service-specific views of the network that correspond to the respective services; and

displaying selected one or more of the service-specific views by presenting each [a] view based on the view-configuration information with respect to each of the services, [the] said each view including both or either one of a physical network configuration of the network and a logical network configuration of the network.

11. (amended) A system for controlling a network including network elements and links, said system comprising:

a database which stores network-configuration information and view-configuration information such that the view-configuration information is related to the network-configuration information;

a service-management server which attends to registering and updating of the information stored in the database, and defines service-specific views of a physical network configuration and a logical network configuration with respect to each of the services based on the view-configuration information stored in said database;

a network-management server which collects information on configurations of the network elements and the links as well as information on failures, and informs said service-

management server of a change in at least one of the configurations and the failures for a purpose of said updating; and

a client which displays both or either one of the physical network configuration and the logical network configuration with respect to said client's own service [based on the views defined by said service management server] by selecting one of the service-specific views that corresponds to said client's own service.